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Medicine has no specific against yellow fever, the therapeutic measures employed are evacuants, quinine, injection of artificial serum, and cold baths.

Of the evacuants only those that are mild, as castor oil, appear efficacious; there is no especial reason to use artificial serum, except in a disease where the blood becomes thickened as in cholera. Quinine has no action, or possibly an unfavorable one, while lotions and cold baths are disastrous. The utility of these latter in a disease where hyperpyrexia is far from the greatest danger is not apparent, and the few patients that have not succumbed under this treatment declare that after each bath they felt that they were weaker.

The native treatment consists in using evacuants, stimulants, and diuretics. From a scientific point of view it is, then, perfectly rational. Here it is in a few words: They begin by a strong purge of castor oil, 80 to 100 c. c. The next day and following days they give 250 c. c. of olive oil with the same amount of lemon juice, the whole divided into several doses. At the same time they practice upon the entire body—beginning above—frictions with a mixture of the plants given below—green or dry—triturated with lemon juice or vinegar.

Langoutj (*Veronia amygdalina. Del.*) Composite plant.

Begnefola (*Andropogon Schoeanthus?*) Granimeous plant.

Basilic (*Ocymum Albusn*). Labiated plant.

The first two named are in the Volofe language. The classification is from the work of R. P. Sabire. Of the langoutj and the basilic, the leaves are used; of the begnefala it is the flowering tops of the roots.

The frictions seem to have a very energetic action. The skin must absorb the principals of the drugs, for their odor persists in the axilla of the patients. The begnefala is besides a febrifuge and is also given internally as a calming draught (*tisane*).

During the treatment the diet is strict. The patient takes internally chiefly the antifebrile and stimulating draughts. In 1878 they gave many draughts made with equal parts of the roots of baki (*Cocculus bakis*) menispermate plant, and of the roots of bantamaré (*Cassia fedegosa*) leguminous plant. At present they prefer the draught of kinkeliba (*Combretum Rainbaultii*).

The Cassia fedegosa and kinkeliba have been studied by Professor Heckel. They are febrifuges and cholagogues. The second is besides very diuretic. It is to be regretted that they are not more used in medicine.

Finally, in grave cases, when the patient falls into a state of coma, they give an infusion of a large handful of leaves of kordio (*Rhynchosia glomerato*), leguminous plant. This is an extremely drastic and violent purgative.

In closing, I may say that this treatment is scientifically entirely logical. It is easy, as the necessary plants abound in the country, and, finally, it has stood the test.

GERMANY.

Report from Berlin of 13 deaths from plague in Smyrna.

BERLIN, GERMANY, *January 9, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to state that according to press reports 13 deaths from plague have occurred at Smyrna. It is also stated that the infection is a very virulent one as nearly every case resulted fatally.

Respectfully,

J. B. GREENE,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Plague reports from various countries.

BERLIN, GERMANY, *January 14, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following obtained from the imperial health office at Berlin:

Plague.

TURKEY.—A case of suspected plague occurred on January 2 at Smyrna, where since July 31, 1900, no further cases had been reported and the disease had been considered for months as stamped out.